CANTHARUS MULTANGULUS NEW SUBSPECIES *GRANDANUS* FROM NORTHWEST FLORIDA (BUCCINIDAE)

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During the last few years, members of the Gulf Coast Shell Club in Panama City, northwest Florida, have been very active in surveying the marine mollusks of their area. In fact, they have published several checklists and in 1983 issued their illustrated *Seashells of Bay County and the Gulf Coast*. In 1982, Robert Granda, and later other members, collected and sent me an unusual form of *Cantharus* which I now take pleasure in naming after its original discoverer.

Family Buccinidae Rafinesque, 1815
Genus *Cantharus* Röding, 1798
Cantharus multangulus (Philippi, 1848)
new subspecies ***grandanus***

Description—Shell small, up to 28 mm in length, fusiform, light-weight, finely but coarsely sculptured, and with 6 or 7 whorls. Nuclear whorls 1½, smooth, rounded, rapidly descending, translucent tan to clear. First 4 or 5 postnuclear whorls slightly shouldered, with 10 or 11 strong, rounded, axial ribs crossed by about 9 or 10 very small, irregularly-sized, square-topped, spiral threads. On the penultimate and last whorl, which is smoothly rounded, the axial ribs are obsolete. Body whorl and short siphonal canal with about 30 to 40 fine spiral threads of uneven size. Columella with two weak, oblique plicae at the base. Outer lip simple and minutely jagged. Inside of last whorl glossy tan and with about a dozen, smooth spiral threads. Color of outer shell tannish brown, reddish or whitish yellow with numerous fine flecks, occasional narrow spiral bands and sparse axial flames of chocolate-brown. Operculum chitinous, translucent tan, elongate-oval and filling most of the aperture. Soft parts and radulae not examined.

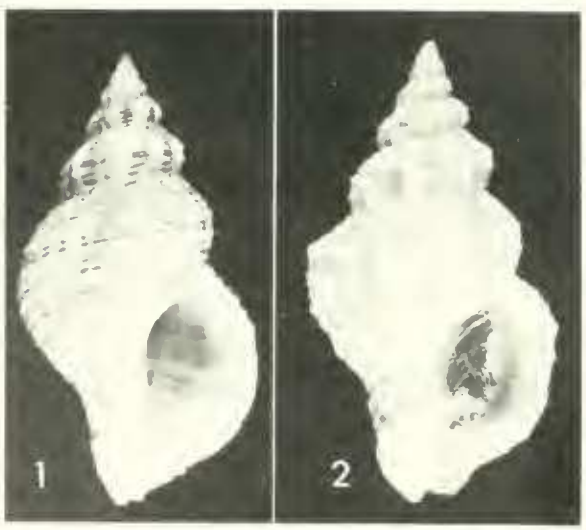

FIG. 1. *Cantharus multangulus* subspecies *grandanus* Abbott, holotype, UNNM no. 859096, 28.7 × 14.4 mm. FIG. 2, *Cantharus multangulus multangulus* (Philippi, 1848) from off Shell Island, Panama City, N.W. Florida, 29.1 × 15.6 mm. Both collected by Robert Granda, 1982.

Type locality—2 to 4 feet of water, on sand and weed bottom, Islet, ¼ mi east of Black Isle, Saint Joseph Bay, off Port St. Joe, Gulf County, northwest Florida. Robert Granda, collector, March 13, 1982.

Types—The holotype is deposited in U. S. National Museum as no. 859096. Paratypes from the type locality have been deposited in the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, the American Museum of Natural History, N.Y., the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard, and the Florida State Museum, University of Gainesville, Florida.

Records—This moderately rare subspecies has been collected in several places in St. Joe Bay. Linda Brunner has also collected this subspecies in St. Andrews Bay in nearby Bay County.

Measurements (mm.)—

	length	width
Holotype	28.7	14.4
Paratype	26.8	13.1
Paratype	26.7	14.0
Paratype	24.0	12.1
Paratype	21.1	11.0
Paratype	21.0	11.0

Remarks—The subspecies *grandanus* of the northeast Gulf of Mexico differs from the nominate *Cantharus multangulus* (Philippi,

1848) in having a lighter-weight shell, lacking the strong shoulder nodules on the last two whorls, in having more numerous spiral threads, and in being a little more elongate in proportions. The variations in colors and patterns are very similar. It is possible that these colonies in the "Panhandle" region of Florida represent an ecological, rather than a genetic, form.

Mr. Granda obtained two "clutches" of small, horny egg-capsules which he found on pieces of carapace from the horseshoe crab, *Limulus*. The urn-shaped capsules, about 5 × 8 mm, closely resembled those so well illustrated by D'Asaro in his account of the capsules of *Cantharus multangulus* from the same region (1986, p. 86, figs. A–D). Very similar capsules of the nominate species from Sanibel Island were illustrated by Perry and Schwengel, 1955, pl. 50, fig. 340.

Cantharus cancellarius (Conrad, 1846) from the same region differs in being more ovoid, having a shorter spire and in having much stronger and fewer spiral threads. The similar muricid, *Calotrophon ostrearum* (Conrad, 1846), has stronger shoulder nodes and a mauve to rosy-purple aperture. Fossil *C. multangulus* from the old St. Petersburg pits have fewer axial nodes per whorl. This group of species appears to be largely confined to southeast United States, the Bahamas, the north coast of Cuba and Yucatan, Mexico.

LITERATURE CITED

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ON THE TAXONOMICAL STATUS OF *TRITONIUM VIRIDULUM* FABRICIUS, 1780 (GASTROPODA: CANCELLARIIDAE)

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ABSTRACT

The taxonomic and nomenclatorial problems associated with the species Admete viridula *(Fabricius, 1780) are discussed. The fact that the type specimens of both* Admete viridula *and* A. crispa *Möller, 1842 are mising from the Zoological Museum in Copenhagen complicates the situation considerably as three species are involved,* Tritonium viridulum *Fabricius, 1780,* Defrancia viridula *Möller, 1842, and* D. exarata *Möller, 1842. Fabricius's name is to be regarded as a* nomen dubium *and that* Admete couthouyi *(Jay, 1839) should be used as the correct name for that species. Möller's* D. viridula *and* D. exarata *are both good species; but* D. viridula *should probably be named* Oenopota decussata *(Couthouy, 1839) and* D. exarata, Propebela exarata *(Möller, 1842).*

The original description of *Tritonium viridulum*, which was published by Fabricius in 1780 without an illustration, has commonly been regarded as the original description of *Admete viridula auctt.* The description fits the species fairly well, and the taxonomic situation would appear quite simple.

However, Dall (1886: 298) after having examined the holotype in the Zoological Museum in Copenhagen, claimed that the species belonged to the group *Bela auctt.* He also found that *Defrancia viridula* Möller, 1842 (Fig. 1)